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EXAMINER

RICE, ELISA M

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/824,388	Applicant(s) HASUIKE, AKIRA	
	Examiner Elisa M. Rice	Art Unit 2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper content of an abstract of the disclosure.

A patent abstract is a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent and should include that which is new in the art to which the invention pertains. If the patent is of a basic nature, the entire technical disclosure may be new in the art, and the abstract should be directed to the entire disclosure. If the patent is in the nature of an improvement in an old apparatus, process, product, or composition, the abstract should include the technical disclosure of the improvement. In certain patents, particularly those for compounds and compositions, wherein the process for making and/or the use thereof are not obvious, the abstract should set forth a process for making and/or use thereof. If the new technical disclosure involves modifications or alternatives, the abstract should mention by way of example the preferred modification or alternative.

The abstract should not refer to purported merits or speculative applications of the invention and should not compare the invention with the prior art.

Where applicable, the abstract should include the following:

- (1) if a machine or apparatus, its organization and operation;
- (2) if an article, its method of making;
- (3) if a chemical compound, its identity and use;
- (4) if a mixture, its ingredients;
- (5) if a process, the steps.

Extensive mechanical and design details of apparatus should not be given.

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the abstract must be only one paragraph in length. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

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2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made

in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claim 1-6, 8-9, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brown et. al. (US 2002/0051583).

Regarding claim 1, Brown discloses an image display method for downloading an image larger than a display region of a viewer from a server and displaying said image on said viewer, comprising: dividing said image into a plurality of areas, so that each divided image may be transmittable from said server ("the whole image is divided into one or more image tile components", Brown, paragraph 41) determining each divided image at least a part of which is contained in said display region of said viewer in accordance with a relative position between said image and said display region of said viewer ("the selected portion of the image 400 this being, in effect, a mapping to the display

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coordinates traced", Brown, paragraph 58) and enabling the corresponding divided image to be preferentially transmitted from said server("the server 750 at step 904 receives the request relating to the first set of blocks 500", Brown, paragraph 63, "Those corresponding blocks are then transmitted at step 908 by the server 750 to the computer module 701.", Brown, paragraph 63).

Regarding claim 2, Brown discloses an image display method for downloading an image larger than a display region of a viewer from a server and displaying said image on said viewer, comprising: dividing said image into a plurality of areas ("the whole image is divided into one or more image tile components", Brown, paragraph 41), each divided image being provided beforehand in said server, determining each divided image at least a part of which is contained in said display region of said viewer in accordance with a relative position between said image and said display region of said viewer("the selected portion of the image 400 this being, in effect, a mapping to the display coordinates traced", Brown, paragraph 58), and enabling the corresponding divided image to be preferentially transmitted from said server("the server 750 at step 904 receives the request relating to the first set of blocks 500", Brown, paragraph 63, "Those corresponding blocks are then transmitted at step 908 by the server 750 to the computer module 701.", Brown, paragraph 63).

Regarding claim 3, Brown discloses an image display method for downloading an image larger than a display region of a viewer from a server and displaying

said image on said viewer, comprising: dividing said image into a plurality of areas ("the whole image is divided into one or more image tile components", Brown, paragraph 41), each area having a shorter length in one or both of a transverse direction and a longitudinal direction than said display region of said viewer (retrieving, decompressing and rendering said first set of blocks to display, Brown, paragraph 17), determining each divided image at least a part of which is contained in said display region of said viewer in accordance with a relative position between said image and said display region of said viewer ("the selected portion of the image 400 this being, in effect, a mapping to the display coordinates traced", Brown, paragraph 58), and enabling the corresponding divided images to be preferentially transmitted from said server, in which said transmitted divided images are rearranged in an original state and displayed on said viewer ("the server 750 at step 904 receives the request relating to the first set of blocks 500", Brown, paragraph 63, "Those corresponding blocks are then transmitted at step 908 by the server 750 to the computer module 701.", Brown, paragraph 63).

Regarding claim 4, Brown discloses an image display method for downloading an image larger than a display region of a viewer from a server and displaying said image on said viewer, comprising: dividing said image into a plurality of areas ("the whole image is divided into one or more image tile components", Brown, paragraph 41), each divided image being provided beforehand in said server, said viewer determining each divided image at least a part of which is contained in said display region of said viewer in accordance with a relative

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position between said image and said display region of said viewer("the selected portion of the image 400 this being, in effect, a mapping to the display coordinates traced", Brown, paragraph 58), and making a preferential request to the server for said divided image, and said server preferentially transmitting said divided image in response to said request, in which said viewer displays the received divided image("the server 750 at step 904 receives the request relating to the first set of blocks 500", Brown, paragraph 63, "Those corresponding blocks are then transmitted at step 908 by the server 750 to the computer module 701.", Brown, paragraph 63).

Regarding claim 5, Brown discloses an image display method for downloading an image larger than a display region of a viewer from a server and displaying said image on said viewer, comprising: dividing said image into a plurality of areas("the whole image is divided into one or more image tile components", Brown, paragraph 41), each area having a shorter length in one or both of a transverse direction and a longitudinal direction than said display region of said viewer (retrieving, decompressing and rendering said first set of blocks to display, Brown, paragraph 17), each divided image being provided beforehand in said server, said viewer determining each divided image at least a part of which is contained in said display region of said viewer in accordance with a relative position between said image and said display region of said viewer("the selected portion of the image 400 this being, in effect, a mapping to the display coordinates traced", Brown, paragraph 58), and making a preferential request to the server for said divided images, and said server preferentially transmitting said

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divided images in response to said request, in which said viewer rearranges and displays the received divided images in an original state ("the server 750 at step 904 receives the request relating to the first set of blocks 500", Brown, paragraph 63, "Those corresponding blocks are then transmitted at step 908 by the server 750 to the computer module 701.", Brown, paragraph 63).

Regarding claim 6, Brown discloses the image display method according to claim 1, further comprising determining each surrounding divided image adjacent to the area of said divided image contained in said display region of said viewer, which is contained within a limited range of image area in a predetermined positional relation to the display region of said viewer("identifying a second set of blocks surrounding said first set of blocks", Brown, paragraph 18), and enabling the corresponding divided image to be preferentially transmitted from said server(retrieving and decompressing said second set of blocks, Brown, paragraph 19; "making a request, at step 812, for those blocks 600 comprising the second set," Brown, paragraph 60).

Regarding claim 8, Brown discloses the image display method according to claim 1, wherein said divided image is obtained by dividing the image like a lattice in one or both of the transverse direction and the longitudinal direction (Brown, Fig. 13A).

Regarding claim 9, Brown discloses the image display method according to claim 8, wherein said lattice is formed by dividing said image in the transverse direction at every preset number of pixels from a left end position of said image

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as a start point, formed by dividing said image in the longitudinal direction at every preset number of pixels from an upper end position of said image as the start point, or formed by dividing said image in the transverse direction at every preset number of pixels from the left end position of said image as the start point and dividing said image in the longitudinal direction at every preset number of pixels from the upper end position of said image as the start point (Brown, Fig. 12A).

Regarding claim 24, Brown discloses the image display method according to claim 1, wherein said image consists of a mixture of divided images having different file formats (Brown, Fig. 12, different size formats).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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5. Claim 7, 17, 18, 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et. al. (US 2002/0051583) and Tarantino et al. (US 6192393 B1).

Regarding claim 7, while Brown discloses the image display method according to claim 1, Brown does not disclose further comprising determining whether or not said divided image is already downloaded and stored in said viewer, in which if said divided image is already stored, said stored divided image is read out and displayed without downloading it from the server again.

However, Tarantino discloses determining whether or not said divided image is already downloaded and stored in said viewer, in which if said divided image is already stored, said stored divided image is read out and displayed without downloading it from the server again ("the 36 tiles can then be cached in the client, so that if the user adjusts the viewing parameters by navigation, thereby requesting a different view, those tiles from the previous view which are relevant to the current view are already available, and do not have to be transmitted once again from the server. Rendering each new scene may only involve transmitting a few new tiles every few frame refreshes once the first view is rendered.", Tarantino, column 6, line 27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the image optimizing transfer method of Brown with Tarantino's method of storing and using tiles already at the client in order to reduce the time to display the image in that the divided image areas, according to Tarantino in column 6, line

31 do “not have to be transmitted once again from the server” and “rendering each new scene may only involve transmitting a few new tiles.”

Regarding claim 17, while Brown discloses the image display method according to claim 1, Brown does not disclose wherein the image having the same contents are transmittable from the server at a plurality of magnifications and by dividing said image into a plurality of areas at each magnification, the image being displayed at a magnification instructed from the viewer by said method.

Tarantino does disclose wherein the image having the same contents are transmittable from the server at a plurality of magnifications and by dividing said image into a plurality of areas at each magnification, the image being displayed at a magnification instructed from the viewer by said method (“when a user desires to view a specific portion of the panorama at a specific magnification level”, Tarantino, column 5, line 67.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image optimizing transfer method of Brown to include wherein the image can have a plurality of magnifications as taught by Tarantino so that it “is only necessary to transmit those tiles from an appropriate image level of the panorama that have data required for rendering the user's view” (Tarantino, column 6, line 1).

Regarding claim 18, the combination of Brown and Tarantino discloses the image display method according to claim 17, wherein the number of pixels at

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which the image is divided in the transverse direction, or the longitudinal direction, or the transverse and longitudinal directions, is equal irrespective of the magnification (Tarantino, Fig. 3).

Regarding claim 19, the combination of Brown and Tarantino discloses the image display method according to claim 17, wherein when a magnification change operation is performed by placing a pointer at a position on said image in a state where the image is displayed at one magnification, the image is displayed at the changed magnification with the position on said image where said pointer is located as a steady point (Upon seeing the image, a user clicks to zoom in on the lower left quadrant. As a result the four tiles from the next image level, comprising the lower left quadrant of image level 120, are transmitted, Tarantino, column 5, line 36).

6. Claim 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Brown (US 2002/0051583) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Piersol (US 5745910 A).

Regarding claim 10, while Brown discloses the image display method according to claim 1, Brown does not disclose further comprising setting a predetermined number of frame elements on said viewer, said frame elements corresponding to the display region to fit and display the divided images contained within a limited range of image area in a predetermined positional relation to the display region of

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said viewer, including the divided image at least a part of which is contained in said display region of said viewer, the divided image at corresponding position being fitted into each frame element and displayed, determining each divided image leaves away from the display region of said viewer along with the relative movement of the image to release the fitting into the frame element, and determining each divided image approaches the display region of said viewer along with the relative movement of the image to newly fit said divided image into the frame element.

However, Piersol teaches setting a predetermined number of frame elements on said viewer, said frame elements corresponding to the display region to fit and display the divided images contained within a limited range of image area in a predetermined positional relation to the display region of said viewer, including the divided image at least a part of which is contained in said display region of said viewer, the divided image at corresponding position being fitted into each frame element and displayed, determining each divided image leaves away from the display region of said viewer along with the relative movement of the image to release the fitting into the frame element, and determining each divided image approaches the display region of said viewer along with the relative movement of the image to newly fit said divided image into the frame element ("The frame is not an element of the part itself. Rather, a frame is one of three separate data structures which form the primitives for defining the layout of a document. These three data structures comprise a canvas, a frame and a transformation. Referring to FIG. 5, the canvas 75 is a data structure which represents the overall context

of the document. It includes a description of coordinate space, and a mechanism for capturing a series of graphical commands into an image or representation. Examples of canvasses are a bit or pixel map on a computer screen, a page description language for a printer, and a display list for a computer display," Piersol, column 8, line 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the image optimizing transfer method of Brown with the frame elements taught by Piersol in order to "define the layout of a document."

Regarding claim 11 and 12, the combination of Brown and Piersol discloses the image display method according to claim 10, wherein proper identification information is attached to said each frame element, and the divided image leaving away from the display region of said viewer is released the fitting into the frame element, and the divided image approaching the display region of said viewer is newly fitted into the frame element along with the relative movement of said image and wherein proper identification information is attached to said each frame element, and said viewer holds said proper identification information associated with information of the display position of said frame element in the display region of said viewer and identification information of the divided image fitted into said frame element, and displays the divided image fitted into each frame element at the corresponding position in the display region of said viewer, based on said information. (Piersol, Fig. 5, numeral 75; "It includes a description

of coordinate space, and a mechanism for capturing a series of graphical commands into an image or representation.”, Piersol, column 8, line 11)

Regarding claim 13, the combination of Brown and Piersol discloses the image display method according to claim 12, wherein the identification information of said divided image is composed of information corresponding to an address in the entire image, in which said viewer makes a request to the server for said divided image with the identification information of said divided image, and said server discriminates the divided image corresponding to said identification information and transmits it to said viewer (“according to the JPEG 2000 standard, blocks are the lowest addressable components of the image”, Brown, paragraph 44).

Regarding claim 14, the combination of Brown and Piersol discloses the image display method according to claim 13, wherein the identification information of said divided image has no information for identifying a file format of each divided image. The Brown and Piersol references nowhere disclose that the identification information of said divided image has information for identifying a file format of each divided image so it is therefore assumed that such information is not available in the invention of the combination of Brown and Piersol.

Regarding claim 15, the combination of Brown and Piersol discloses the image display method according to claim 10, wherein the block is made up of said predetermined number of frame elements as a whole, and when a relative

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movement of the image is instructed, said viewer calculates the coordinates of the origin of the block to be moved with respect to the origin of the display region of said viewer, and calculates the coordinates of the origin of said each frame element to be moved, based on said calculated coordinates of the origin of the block, and moves the origin of each frame element to the calculated coordinates to implement said relative movement of said image ("The top left end frame element 136 is then drawn, as indicated by block 206, by retrieving the bit mapped image of the top left end element 136 from memory and copying the bits of that image to the screen buffer at the calculated relative location. Alternatively, the image bit map may be copied directly onto the screen which requires immediate conversion of the location coordinate to absolute screen coordinates. The calculated size information is used to clip the element 136 bit mapped image off the right and bottom ends to fit it into the rectangle defined by the calculated size data if the calculated dimensions are smaller than the dimensions of the stored element bit map image (or alternatively using graphic scaling).", Piersol, column 6, line 51)

Regarding claim 16, the combination of Brown and Piersol discloses the image display method according to claim 10, wherein said divided image is obtained by dividing the image like a lattice in the transverse direction in which a predetermined number of consecutive divided images in the transverse direction are fitted into said frame elements, said divided image is obtained by dividing the image like a lattice in the longitudinal direction in which a predetermined number of consecutive divided images in the longitudinal direction are fitted into said

frame elements, or said divided image is the image divided like a lattice in the transverse and longitudinal directions in which a predetermined number of consecutive divided images in the transverse direction, a predetermined number of consecutive divided images in the longitudinal direction, or a predetermined number of divided images in the transverse direction and a predetermined number of divided images in the longitudinal direction are fitted into said frame elements("The frame is not an element of the part itself. Rather, a frame is one of three separate data structures which form the primitives for defining the layout of a document. These three data structures comprise a canvas, a frame and a transformation. Referring to FIG. 5, the canvas 75 is a data structure which represents the overall context of the document. It includes a description of coordinate space, and a mechanism for capturing a series of graphical commands into an image or representation. Examples of canvasses are a bit or pixel map on a computer screen, a page description language for a printer, and a display list for a computer display," Piersol, column 8, line 5; Brown Fig. 13A).

7. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Brown et al. (US 2002/005158) and Tarantino et al. (US 6192393 B1), further in view of Piersol (US 5745910 A).

Regarding claim 20, while the combination of Brown and Piersol discloses the image display method according to claim 10, the combination of Brown and

Piersol does not disclose wherein the image having the same contents is transmittable from the server at a plurality of magnifications and by dividing said image into a plurality of areas at each magnification, the image being displayed at a magnification instructed from the viewer by said method, in which the number of frame elements is equal, irrespective of the magnification.

Tarantino does disclose wherein the image having the same contents is transmittable from the server at a plurality of magnifications and by dividing said image into a plurality of areas at each magnification, the image being displayed at a magnification instructed from the viewer by said method, in which the number of frame elements is equal, irrespective of the magnification ("when a user desires to view a specific portion of the panorama at a specific magnification level", Tarantino, column 5, line 67.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image optimizing transfer invention of the combination of Brown and Piersol to include wherein the image can have a plurality of magnifications as taught by Tarantino so that it "is only necessary to transmit those tiles from an appropriate image level of the panorama that have data required for rendering the user's view"(Tarantino, column 6, line 1).

8. Claim 21, 22, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Brown et al. (US 2002/005158) and Pacifici (US 6230171 B1).

Regarding claim 21, while Brown discloses the image display method according to claim 1, Brown does not disclose wherein said viewer is a Web browser, each arithmetical operation at said Web browser being executed based on a JavaScript (registered trademark) stored in an HTML transmitted from the server.

Pacifici teaches wherein said viewer is a Web browser, each arithmetical operation at said Web browser being executed based on a JavaScript (registered trademark) stored in an HTML transmitted from the server ("FIG. 2 illustrates how the markup system interacts with the client-side manager and the Web browser. In the preferred embodiment, the collaboration server 112 (FIG. 1) described above, inserts a JavaScript function implementing the markup system which then is invoked inside every shared document 214 displayed by the Web browser 116.", Pacifici, column 4, line 27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement Brown's image optimizing transfer invention using a Web browser being executed based on a JavaScript (registered trademark) stored in an HTML transmitted from the server as it is well known in the art that a major use of web-based JavaScript is to write functions that are embedded in or included from HTML pages and interact with the Document Object Model (DOM) of the page to perform tasks not possible in HTML alone.

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Regarding claim 22, while Brown and Pacifici disclose the image display method according to claim 21, Brown and Pacifici do not disclose wherein said frame element is set up, employing <DIV> tags described in the HTML transmitted from the server.

Pacifici teaches wherein said frame element is set up employing <DIV> tags described in the HTML transmitted from the server ("An HTML layer may be regarded as a container in which other HTML components, e.g., text, images, etc., can be embedded. HTML layer may be implemented using either the LAYER tag or the DIV tag. Regardless of the HTML tag used in the implementation, the term layer is referred to herein, for describing an HTML component that acts as a container for other HTML components, and which maybe assigned a background color, and a relative position inside the browser's window.", Pacifici, column 6, line 7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement the combination of Brown and Pacifici's invention using DIV tags for the frame elements because an HTML layer, a container in which other HTML components, e.g. text, images, etc. can be embedded "can be implemented using the DIV tag" as stated by Pacifici in column 6, line 7.

Regarding claim 23, the combination of Brown and Pacifici discloses the image display method according to claim 21, wherein the attribute information such as a file name and/or a file format for said each divided image is not incorporated into the HTML transmitted from the server (Pacifici, column 10, line 45).

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elisa M. Rice whose telephone number is (571)270-1580. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00a.m.-5:30p.m. EST Monday thru Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian P. Werner can be reached on (571)272-7401. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Elisa Rice 
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2609

EMR

/Brian P. Werner/

Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE), Art Unit 2624